

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:  
**Masahiro HATAKEYAMA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2881**

Application Number: **10/511,396**

Examiner: **Nikita Wells**

Filed: **March 23, 2005**

Confirmation Number: **2154**

For: **SAMPLE SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD**

Attorney Docket Number: **042879**

Customer Number: **38834**

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 20, 2007

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated September 26, 2007.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.